[31st July 1952

Closure of provident fund accounts of teachers in non-pensionable service.

* 71 Q.—SRI G. KRISHNAMURTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal to expedite the closure of provident fund accounts of teachers in non-pensionable service?

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" The Government have already issued directions to the Director of Public Instruction to instruct the managements and the District Educational Officers to see that no delays occur in the closure of provident fund accounts of the teachers. The applications for the closure of provident fund accounts are dealt with as ' urgent ' and, in any event, the accounts are to be settled ordinarily within a period of three months from the dates of applications. The Accountant-General has also been requested to do everything in his power to avoid delays in his office in the settlement of the accounts of the teachers."

SRI G. KRISHNAMURTHI :—" Are the Government aware, Sir, that normally it takes 8 to 12 months for a teacher to get his provident fund account closed and many teachers are finding it very hard in their needy period after their retirement in the absence of an immediate closure and payment of their provident fund amounts? "

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" It is in view of these inconveniences that these instructions have been issued."

SRI G. KRISHNAMURTHI :—" Are the Government aware, Sir, that part of the delay is due to the Post office which requires a lot of time to trace the used up pass books? "

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" I do not know what is the implication of the question; however, delays were mainly caused by the improper maintenance of accounts and the consequent objections raised by the Postal authorities or the Accountant-General in settling the accounts. In view of these difficulties definite instructions have been issued."

SRI G. KRISHNAMURTHI :—" May I know, Sir, if special provision could not be made to open a bigger pass book, a volume of 60 pages with six lines in each page, so that there will be 360 lines, to suffice for thirty years, and the question of the used up pass books being retained by the Post offices, the delay involved in tracing them and the payment of special fees for getting the necessary ledger entries in the absence of the used up pass books in the post offices, can be avoided? "

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" The suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered."